

**Memorandum of Understanding  
Between  
The County of Santa Fe and the Pueblo of Pojoaque  
For the Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Treatment Project**

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is entered into by and between the County of Santa Fe ("County"), a political subdivision of the State of New Mexico, and the Pueblo of Pojoaque ("Pueblo"), a federally recognized Indian Tribe, as of the effective date defined below.

**Recitals**

**WHEREAS**, the County and the Pueblo (sometimes collectively "the Parties"), in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of Pojoaque Valley residents and visitors, desire to cooperate in the funding, procurement, planning, permitting, design, construction, development, improvement, management, operation, maintenance, repair, and ownership of the Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Treatment Project ("the Project");

**WHEREAS**, the County and the Pueblo entered into that certain Memorandum of Understanding dated September 16, 2005, resolving to meet, to cooperate and to take actions necessary to address intergovernmental priorities including water and wastewater issues;

**WHEREAS**, early regional water and wastewater plans include the Espanola Valley and Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Master Plan dated July 1989, prepared by Molzen-Corbin & Associates, P.A., and the Jemez y Sangre Regional Water Plan dated 2003, prepared by Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc.;

**WHEREAS**, the North Central New Mexico Water Quality Plan ("the Plan") dated May 2002, was prepared for the North Central New Mexico Economic Development District ("NCNMEDD") by ASCG, Incorporated ("ASCG"), and concluded the Pojoaque Valley region needs central wastewater collection and treatment facilities;

**WHEREAS**, a regional wastewater collection and treatment facility in the Pojoaque Valley ("Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Treatment Project" or "Project") will implement a critical component of the Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the Pueblo prepared a report entitled "Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Treatment Facility" dated January 2005 ("Project Report"), which outlines how the Project might be divided into phases so that it can be completed with the financial resources available at any particular time;

**WHEREAS**, the Project Report proposed that the Project be divided into three phases;

**WHEREAS**, PHASE I would involve the collection, treatment and re-use of wastewater from the Pojoaque Valley School District ("PVSD") (collectively, "PVSD Wastewater Project"); to implement PHASE I (Component A), the Pueblo and PVSD entered into the "Agreement For the Disposal of Wastewater From the Pojoaque Valley School District Jacona Campus to the Pueblo of Pojoaque Lift Station" ("Pojoaque-PVSD Agreement"), dated May 17, 2005; the State in 2005 appropriated \$100,000 to PVSD for the purpose of planning, designing and constructing a water and wastewater system for the Pojoaque Valley public school district in Santa Fe County, pursuant to House Bill 885, Section 19, Paragraph 69; and PVSD has completed the design and construction of PHASE I (Component A);

**WHEREAS**, to implement PHASES II and III, the Pueblo commissioned ASCG to conduct the "Pojoaque Regional Wastewater Facility Planning Study – Phase 1" dated June 2005, funded by the U.S. Department of Interior, which provided options for the Pueblo's wastewater collection and treatment project and related infrastructure; and the "Pojoaque Regional Wastewater Study – Phase 2" dated November 2005, funded by NCNMEDD under a Memorandum of Agreement between NCNMEDD and the Pueblo dated February 27, 2004, which expanded the PHASE I Study to include an examination of needed improvements to the existing regional wastewater treatment capability in the Pojoaque Valley so that the facility can serve non-tribal and tribal areas of East San Ildefonso, Nambe and Tesuque;

**WHEREAS**, for PHASE II (Component A – the Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Treatment Facility ("Facility")), the Pueblo has obtained funding in the approximate amount of \$3,600,000 from the Pueblo and \$900,000 from the State Water Trust Board 2005 monies; and the Pueblo is in the process of designing this phase;

**WHEREAS**, for PHASE II (Component B – effluent re-use line to Buffalo Thunder® Resort), the Pueblo obtained funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 from the Water Trust Board pursuant to 2006 legislative changes to 2002 House Bill 88a, Section 55; and the Pueblo is in the design process for this phase;

**WHEREAS**, for PHASE III (Component A -- Nambe Non-Tribal residents), with an estimated cost of approximately \$6,000,000, the County and the Pueblo in 2007 have made a joint application for approximately \$4,000,000 from the State of New Mexico through its State Year of the Water program; the County is seeking to use the existing State appropriation of \$1,070,000 administered through the New Mexico Environmental Department ("NMED") to plan, design, construct and improve a regional water and wastewater system to serve the Pojoaque Valley area pursuant to 2005 House Bill 885; and the County is seeking an additional \$1,000,000 of County funds;

**WHEREAS**, for PHASE III (Component B -- Cuyamungue Non-Tribal residents), with an estimated cost of \$4,000,000, the County and the Pueblo plan to seek funds from any available source in the near future.

**WHEREAS**, the County and the Pueblo desire to cooperate in the funding and procurement process for current and future appropriations related to the Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Treatment Project; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the citizens of the County and the Pueblo that the County and the Pueblo jointly undertake to fund, plan, permit, design, construct, develop, improve, manage, operate, maintain, repair, and own the Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, upon the mutual consideration described by this MOU the County and the Pueblo agree as follows:

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

1. Scope of MOU.

- a. The purpose of this MOU is to establish guidelines for the County and Pueblo to cooperate in the funding, procurement, planning, permitting, design, construction, development, improvement, operation, maintenance and ownership of the Project.
- b. The scope of this MOU is intended to cover all aspects of all Phases of the Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Treatment Facility Project, some of which may occur concurrently and some of which have already been completed, and which are identified as follows:

(1) PHASE I -- Pojoaque Valley School District Jacona Campus:

- (a) Component A:  
Design and construction of a complete on-site wastewater collection system, including a lift station and an effluent line, from PVSD's Jacona campus to the Pueblo's Industrial Park Lift Station, including removal and decommissioning of the existing Jacona wastewater treatment plant and lagoon system ("Jacona Campus Component") (\$100,000 funded by 2005 House Bill 885; Construction Completed);
- (b) Component B:  
Design and construction of effluent re-use line from the Facility to PVSD's recreational fields (will seek funds in the future);

(2) PHASE II -- Pueblo of Pojoaque Facilities:

- (a) Component A:

Design and construction of the Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Treatment Facility ("Facility") (\$3.6 Million estimate funded by Pueblo of Pojoaque and \$1 Million funded by Water Trust Board; in design process);

- (b) Component B:  
Design and construction of effluent re-use line from the Pueblo's Evaporative Lagoons Treatment Plant to Buffalo Thunder® Resort (\$1 Million estimate, funded by Water Trust Board; in design process);
  - (c) Component C:  
Design and construction of effluent lines from remaining Pueblo areas to the Facility (will seek funds in the future);
- (3) PHASE III – Non-Tribal Residents in Nambe, Cuyamungue and Jacona Areas:
- (a) Component A -- Nambe Non-Tribal Area (\$6 Million estimate):  
Design and construction of main trunk line, lateral lines, service lines and lift station and upgrade as needed to existing Pojoaque Pueblo facilities as needed to accommodate additional capacity from Nambe non-Tribal residents (seeking funds from 2007 legislature; \$6 Million estimate);
  - (b) Component B -- Cuyamungue Non-Tribal Area (\$4 Million est.):  
Design and construction of main trunk line, lateral lines, service lines and lift station and upgrade to existing Pojoaque Pueblo facilities as needed to accommodate additional capacity from Cuyamungue non-Tribal residents (will seek funds in the future; \$4 Million estimate);
  - (c) Component C -- Jacona Non-Tribal Area (\$4 Million estimate):  
Design and construction of main trunk line, lateral lines, service lines and lift station and upgrade to existing Pojoaque Pueblo facilities as needed to accommodate additional capacity from Jacona non-Tribal residents (will seek funds in the future; \$4 Million estimate);
- (4) PHASE IV – Jacona, El Rancho, Nambe :
- (a) Component A:

Design and construction of effluent lines from remaining non-Tribal residents in Jacona, El Rancho, Nambe and Pueblo areas to the Facility.

- (b) Component B:  
Design and construction of a complete on-site wastewater collection system, including a lift station and effluent lines on PVSD's Pojoaque campus, and effluent lines from the PVSD's Pojoaque campus to the a lift station located on the Pueblo or to another agreed-upon location ("Pojoaque Campus Component");

## 2. Future Agreements.

- a. The parties hereto recognize that future agreements are necessary to implement the Project as described above. In particular, the issues of ownership, responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Project, the responsibilities of each party to contribute to the Project, and other important details have not been completely resolved, although general agreement has been reached on many important points. The parties therefore commit to addressing these details in future agreements; such future agreements may take the form of a global agreement to address these issues with respect to the entire Project, or may be partial agreements intended to address only a portion, component or Phase of the Project.
- b. Such future agreements must address ownership of the Project as a whole, or may instead address discrete ownership of elements of the Project. Such future agreements must also address the governance of the Project by the parties hereto, shall address the relationship of the parties as between the parties and as to the Project, and shall specify each parties' right to participate in Project design, planning, execution, construction, operation and maintenance.
- c. Such future agreements must address technical details of Project construction, such as procurement of the Project, design, engineering and construction of the Project, input of the parties on these details, fiscal management of construction of the Project and operation of the Project thereafter.
- d. Such future agreements must address the parties' capital contributions to the Project, and the parties' respective responsibility for contributing to the operational and maintenance expenses of the Project, each party's responsibility to contribute revenue to the Project, and application of federal, state and local grants to the Project.

- e. Such future agreements must address the required environmental approvals and permits necessary to construct, develop, improve, operate and maintain the Project, the required archeological clearances under National Historic Preservation Act, if applicable, for Project phases on non-Pueblo owned land, other necessary permits, rights-of-way and service line agreements for Project phases on non-Pueblo owned land.
- f. Such future agreements must address the use of treated effluent that will be created by the Project by the Parties and others.
- o. Such future agreements must address the issue of revenue to support the Project on a long term basis, including the issues of establishing reasonable rates for the disposal and treatment of effluent by the then-operator of the Project, as appropriate.
- p. Such future agreements may set forth the parties respective responsibilities for seeking and obtaining additional state and federal assistance for the Project and all other things deemed reasonable and necessary by the Parties to effectuate the purposes of this MOU and the Project.

5. Termination.

- a. This MOU shall be for a term of twenty (20) years or for the life of the Project, whichever is greater.
  - b. Once the Project, or any Phase or Component of the Project, is constructed, the parties recognize that termination of this MOU as to any Phase or Component already constructed is likely to endanger the public health, safety and welfare, and should be avoided unless adequate provisions are made for safe disposal of the liquid waste, the treatment and safe transportation of which is the subject of this MOU. After construction of any Phase or Component of the Project, this MOU may be terminated as to any Phase or Component already constructed only upon formal mutual agreement of the parties hereto.
- c. Prior to expenditure of any funds dedicated to any specific Phase or Component of the Project as described in this MOU, any party's participation in this MOU may be terminated as to that Phase or Component, upon one-hundred eighty (180) days advance written notice.
- d. In the event funds are not appropriated by the County's governing body (the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Fe County, New Mexico) to satisfy the

County's obligations as to any Phase or Component of the Project hereunder, any party shall have the option of terminating this MOU as to that Phase or Component as of the date when the County's funds become exhausted.

6. Establishment of the Project Coordination Committee.

- a. The County and the Pueblo will organize a Project Coordination Committee for the purpose of coordinating the efforts of the County, the Pueblo and the community.
- b. The Committee will meet as determined by the majority of the Committee on an as-needed basis.
- c. The Committee will be comprised of
  - (1) County technical personnel appointed by the County;
  - (2) Pueblo technical personnel appointed by the Pueblo;
  - (3) PVSD technical personnel appointed by PVSD for the Project phases related to the PVSD Wastewater Project; and
  - (4) Community representative(s) familiar with the Project appointed by the County for the Project phases related to the design and construction of effluent lines from non-Tribal areas and the Non-Tribal Collection System.
- d. The Committee shall report from time to time concerning activities addressed and issues encountered to the governing bodies and officials of the parties.

7. Ownership.

The County and the Pueblo shall cooperate to determine ownership of the various aspects of the Project and to determine the responsibility for maintaining and operating the Project, or any Phase thereof, after construction.

8. Insurance.

- a. Each party hereto shall obtain and maintain in force during the duration of this MOU a comprehensive public liability and automobile insurance policy with policy limits commensurate with each parties' exposure and sovereign immunity, but in no event not less than \$1,050,000 (combined single limit of liability per occurrence), which policy or policies shall insure against bodily injury (including death), property damage, and violations of civil rights. Said policies of insurance shall include coverage for all operations performed by the insured, use of owned, non-owned, hired automobiles, vehicles and other equipment, both on and off work, and contractual liability coverage.

- b. The County shall be responsible, during construction of various elements of the Project, for obtaining and maintaining in force a policy or policies of builder's risk insurance coverage with coverage limits appropriate to the work being performed, the cost of which shall be considered a cost attributable to the Project and may be deducted from funds used to construct the Project. In addition, the County shall require contractors of the Project to obtain and maintain in force through substantial completion of the relevant element of the Project a surety bond or bonds as required by New Mexico law, errors and omissions insurance coverage or professional liability insurance with limits commensurate to the value of the relevant element of Project, and workers' compensation insurance in amounts specified by the New Mexico Workers' Compensation Act (as amended).
- c. Each party shall name the other party as a certificate holder on each policy of insurance held by that party in satisfaction of this Section of this MOU and shall, upon demand of the other party, provide such further evidence of coverage as may be required by the other party.
- d. All policies of insurance described in this Section shall be written by companies authorized to write such insurance in New Mexico.

10. Non-Appropriation.

Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as obligating the parties in the expenditure of funds or for some future payment of funds in excess of appropriations allowed by law. The parties' obligations pursuant to this MOU are therefore contingent upon appropriation of funds by the governing body of each party. Each party's decision concerning appropriations, including decisions concerning the sufficiency of appropriations, shall be final.

11. Liability.

No party hereto shall be responsible for liability incurred as a result of the other party's acts or omissions in connection with this MOU. The County and the Pueblo each expressly do not waive its sovereign immunity from suit, and nothing in this MOU shall be construed as a general waiver of sovereign immunity by either party, and any claim arising in connection with this MOU shall be subject to the privileges and immunities of the New Mexico Tort Claims Act (as amended) with respect to the County and to governmental immunities and limitations under federal and tribal law with respect to the Pueblo. Nothing in this MOU shall be construed as a waiver, express or implied, of the sovereign immunity of the Pueblo.



12. Law.

The laws of the State of New Mexico and applicable federal law shall govern this MOU, unless otherwise provided in this MOU.

13. Environmental Standards.

The Pueblo consents to the application of the environmental standards of NMED with respect to effluent that is treated by, and discharged off, the Pueblo as part of this Project. In no event, however, does the Pueblo submit to the regulatory or jurisdictional authority of the NMED. The United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Pueblo have exclusive regulatory authority and jurisdiction over environmental matters on the Pueblo. The Pueblo retains the authority to determine, in its sole discretion, the environmental standards that otherwise apply to any portion of the Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Project that is located on the Pueblo, provided the Pueblo complies with applicable federal laws and regulations.

14. Reservation of Pueblo Rights.

The Pueblo reserves exclusive legislative, regulatory and adjudicatory jurisdiction over all aspects of the Pojoaque Valley Wastewater Project, related infrastructure, rights-of-way and service line agreements that are located on the Pueblo.

15. No Third Party Beneficiaries.

The Parties to this MOU do not and do not intend to create in the public, any member thereof, or any person, any rights whatsoever such as, but not limited to, the rights of a third-party beneficiary, or to authorize anyone not a party to this MOU to maintain a suit for any claim whatsoever pursuant to the provisions of this MOU.

16. Binding Effect.

This MOU shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties and their respective representatives, successors, and assigns.

17. Amendment.

This MOU may be amended or modified only by the written, mutual consent of the Parties.

18. Books and Records.

- a. The parties shall maintain adequate and correct books and accounts concerning the Project, the construction thereof, and the subsequent operation and maintenance thereof.
- b. The accounts prepared pursuant to the previous paragraph shall be open to inspection at any reasonable time by the parties hereto, their accountants or agents.
- c. The County shall maintain adequate and correct accounts of funds disbursed pursuant to this MOU, and these accounts shall be open to inspection during regular working hours to the parties hereto, their accountants or agents.
- d. The State Auditor of New Mexico shall have access to the accounts maintained by the parties pursuant to this MOU.

20. Notices.

Any notice, demand, request, or information authorized or related to this MOU shall be deemed to have been given if mailed (return receipt requested), hand delivered or faxed as follows:

To the County: Santa Fe County Utilities Director  
Santa Fe County  
205 Montezuma  
Santa Fe, N.M. 87505  
Phone: 986-6210  
Fax: 992-8421

With a copy to: County Manager  
Santa Fe County  
P.O. Box 276  
Santa Fe, N.M. 87504  
Phone: 986-6200  
Fax: 986-6362

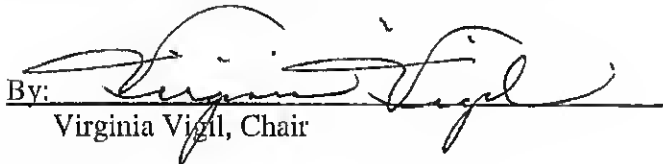
And a copy to: County Attorney  
Santa Fe County  
P.O. Box 276  
Santa Fe, N.M. 87504  
Phone: 986-6279  
Fax: 986-6362

To the Pueblo: George Rivera, Governor  
Poeh Cultural Center  
78 Cities of Gold Road  
Santa Fe, NM 87506  
Phone: 455-3334

With a copy to: Chief Legal Counsel  
Legal Department  
Pueblo of Pojoaque  
17746 U.S. Highway 84/285  
Santa Fe, NM 87506  
Phone: 455-3901  
Fax: 455-33363

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the County of Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the Pueblo of Pojoaque has caused this MOU to be executed and delivered by its duly authorized representatives as of the date specified below.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF SANTA FE COUNTY**

By:   
Virginia Vigil, Chair

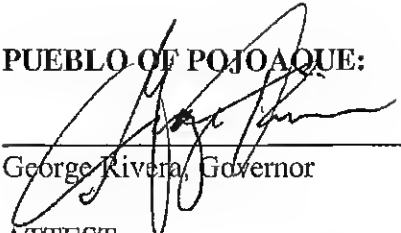
Attest:   
Valerie Espinoza, Santa Fe County Clerk

Approved as to form:

  
Stephen C. Ross, Santa Fe County Attorney

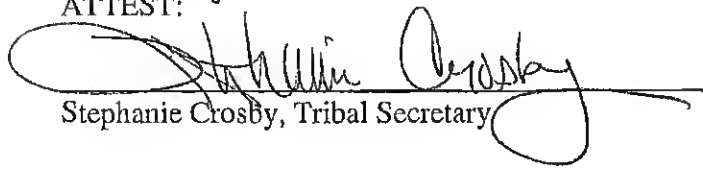
1-29-07  
Date

**PUEBLO OF POJOAQUE:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
George Rivera, Governor

JAN. 31, 2007  
Date

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephanie Crosby, Tribal Secretary